

U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors

Conference Call Agenda – FINAL

Monday, July 1, 2019; 8:00PM ET

1. Welcome
2. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of May 28, 2019 Board of Directors Minutes and ROA
4. Follow Up Board Working Groups/Topics (Anne/David)
 - a. Team Leaders Working Group
 - b. DORM Task Force/Officials ID Working Group
 - c. Governing Council Survey Recap Review
 - d. Request to Foundation (Technology/Museum-100th Anniversary)
5. Nominations to Boards – Foundation and U.S. Ice Rink Association - RFAs
6. Treasurer's Report
7. Vice Presidents' Reports (Midwest, Pacific Coast, East)
8. Group Coordinators' Reports
 - a. Membership Development
 - b. Administrative/Legal
 - c. Athlete Services
 - d. Technical and Officials
 - e. International - ISU Representative
 - i. Grand Prix Meeting
 - ii. Frankfurt Seminar
 - iii. Athlete Release Requests
 - iv. Misc.
9. AAC Report
 - a. General
 - b. Rodchenkov Act
 - c. Congressional Oversight of USOC
10. Executive Director's Report
 - a. USOC Update
 - b. Events Advisory Board Update
 - c. Misc.
11. New Business
12. Executive Session
13. Next Meeting – Conference Call – Monday, August 5, 2019 – 8pm ET/5pm PT

**U.S. Figure Skating Board of Directors
Via Conference Call
July 1, 2019, 8:00 p.m. ET**

Present

Samuel Auxier (Past President), Gretchen Bonnie, Anne Cammett (President), Kristin Arneson Cutler, Christine Fowler-Binder, Lynn Goldman, Troy Goldstein, Bob Horen (ISU Representative), Mark Ladwig (joined at 8:20 p.m.), Jenna Longo (joined at 8:34 p.m.), Bobby Martin, Colin McManus (non-voting athlete), Heather Nemier, Richard Perez, David Raith (Executive Director), Douglas Razzano, Alan Wolf

Absent

Janis Engel, Karen Terry Perreault

Guests

Juliet Newcomer, Kelly Vogtner (for the Board Working Groups/Topics)

I. Opening of the Board of Directors Meeting

- A. Cammett welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
- B. Bonnie took roll call, and a quorum was confirmed.
- C. The agenda was approved.
- D. The May 28 minutes and report of action were approved.

II. Follow Up Board Working Groups/Topics

- A. Auxier reviewed the work of the Team Leaders Working Group including the High Performance Development Team Leader application process.
- B. The referred items will soon start to be reviewed by the Domestic Officials Recruitment and Management Committee (compensation of officials) and the Competitions Committee (announcing/publishing city/state). Both committees have been asked to submit information to the Board of Directors at the November in-person board meeting.
- C. Cammett asked the board members to review the Governing Council Survey Recap. She then announced that the following board members will be part of a working group to review this and come back with recommendations no later than the September board call: the three vice presidents, Wolf and an athlete named by Ladwig. Cammett then gave a brief summary of the results.
- D. Cammett reviewed a presentation that was sent to the board regarding a request for support from the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation regarding technology and the 100th anniversary/museum plans.

<8:20 p.m. ET, Ladwig joined the call>

Goldstein, Raith and Vogtner then provided additional information. There were no objections to moving forward. Vogtner also announced that Mary Klugherz has been appointed as the chair of the Strategic Planning Committee for the 2019-20 season.

<8:30 p.m. ET, Vogtner left the call>

III. Nominations to Boards – Foundation and U.S. Ice Rink Association RFAs

- A. Raith reviewed a recommendation for the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation trustees, and Wolf then made the following motion:

<**Request For Action**> to approve the nomination of Emily Hughes to serve as U.S. Figure Skating's athlete trustee of the U.S. Figure Skating Foundation. (12 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 3 absent)

- B. Raith reviewed recommendations for the U.S. Ice Rinks Association Board of Directors, and Wolf then made the following motion:

<**Request For Action**> to approve the president's reappointment of Scott Cudmore and Jerod Swallow as U.S. Figure Skating representatives to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Ice Rinks Association and the new appointment of athlete representative Isabella Cannuscio to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Ice Rinks Association. (11 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain, 3 absent)

IV. Treasurer's Report

Goldstein reported that the financials are on target through May 31, 2019. He then reviewed key drivers in the Statement of Activities.

<8:34 p.m. ET, Longo joined the call>

<Executive Session>

V. Vice Presidents' Reports

A. Midwestern

1. Cutler reported that she held her first VP call on June 19 with Shelbi Meyer and John Anderson presenting on SafeSport, and a presentation on the Excel Festival. There was a lot of good discussion on the call about the locker room policy and what different clubs are doing to follow this for competitions and ice shows.
2. Cutler announced that her next call is scheduled for July 17.
3. Cutler also thanked staff members Vogtner and Erika Lehman for streamlining the process for the VP calls.

B. Pacific Coast

1. Cammett notified the board that Engel was on a plane to Frankfurt for the annual ISU seminar and read a report that Engel submitted in advance.
 - a. Engel reported that the first Pacific Coast VP call this season was on June 18 and focused on board meeting updates, SafeSport and the Excel Festival. Notable questions were asked about SafeSport training for athletes who are under 18 years of age, and participants were informed that such training will be available in the future.
 - b. Engel reported that there has been a lower participation of Pacific Coast club members in the Excel Series, so the Excel competition schedule is being reviewed to better align with the overall Pacific Coast competition schedule.
 - c. Engel reported that the Pacific Coast Facebook page has been updated with a new graphic.

C. Eastern

1. Nemier reported that her first VP call of the new season was on June 19 with Shelbi Meyer and John Anderson presenting on SafeSport, and Elise Preston presenting on the Excel Festival.
2. Nemier announced that her next call will be July 21 and will focus on all things membership and getting the season started.
3. Nemier also expressed her gratitude for the streamlined process and the new graphics for the VP Facebook pages.
4. Nemier notified the board that she was able to attend the Lake Placid Figure Skating Competition. Big topics during the week were the National Qualifying Series and EMS, and Nemier has already been in communication with staff members about the feedback she received.

VI. Group Coordinators' Reports

A. Membership Development Group

1. Wolf announced that, as of May 31, U.S. Figure Skating has approximately 202,000 total members, including 143,670 Learn to Skate USA members. Wolf reported that membership is up in every category except regular membership, which is flat.
2. Wolf notified the board that a press release and a 10-page feature in SKATING magazine are planned to announce the membership totals.
3. Wolf informed the board that he was able to attend the Excel Festival and reported that it was a fantastic event.
4. Wolf notified the board that meetings are being set up for next week for the Bridge Program.

B. Administrative/Legal Group

1. Cammett notified the board that Perreault was also on a plane to Frankfurt for the ISU seminar, and Raith read a report that Perreault submitted in advance.
 - a. Perreault reported on the current work undertaken by the Ethics and Grievance Committees.
 - b. Raith reminded the board that an updated U.S. Figure Skating SafeSport Program Handbook was posted June 11.
 - c. Raith announced that the U.S. Center for SafeSport will be auditing U.S. Figure Skating on Tuesday, July 16, and SafeSport chair Pat St. Peter will come to headquarters for that meeting.

- d. Raith announced that Lexi Rohner has been elected as the chair of the Nominating Committee for the 2019-20 season.
2. Fowler-Binder and Martin have been asked to help the SafeSport Committee with couples skating – ice dance and pairs – and provided information on what’s been done so far.

<Executive Session>

C. Athlete Services Group

1. Goldman notified the board that her group is reviewing the rulebook and Technical Notifications and asked Newcomer to let her know if anyone hasn’t responded.
2. Goldman reviewed the ice dance documents that have been posted and notified the board that the Tea-Time Foxtrot will only require one pattern for tests and competitions.
3. Goldman provided information on the work of the Memorial Fund Committee and some of the activities they have planned.
4. Goldman reported that the pairs calling clarifications are being updated.
5. Goldman notified the board that the Singles Development and Technical Committee is working with the Competitions Committee on updating the IJS software to match the new bonus rules, and also announced that TN 233, with the minimum scores needed to achieve free skate test credit through IJS protocols, has been posted.
6. Goldman reviewed the documents that have been posted for synchronized skating and notified the board that the DREAM skaters who have been identified can be followed on Instagram and Facebook.

D. Technical and Officials Group

1. Perez notified the board that he just returned from serving as the chief referee for the 2019 National Theatre On Ice Competition and reported that it was an excellent event.
2. Perez reviewed the 2019 Judges Appointment Seminar that was held June 6-9, 2019, in Oak Brook, Illinois, including the number of attendees and percentage of appointments.
3. Perez commended Sherri Redmond, new national vice chair of the Recruitment Subcommittee, on the work she’s done with her subcommittee so far.

E. International Group

1. Horen announced that today is the first official day of the 2019-20 international season and reviewed the work of the International Group committees.
2. Horen reviewed the Grand Prix Selection Meeting that was held in France on June 19-20, and notified the board that the Team USA athletes received most of the assignments they had hoped to get.
3. Horen notified the board that the Frankfurt Seminar is this week with a large group of officials attending.
4. Raith reviewed three requests to release specific athletes. Consistent with the policy:
 - a. James Koszuta will not be released to compete for Norway this season but will be eligible to be released for the 2020-21 season.
 - b. Chelsea Liu will not be released to compete for China this season but may be eligible to be released either for the 2020-21 season or the 2021-22 season.
 - c. Emmy Ma may be released to compete for Chinese Taipei this upcoming season or for the 2020-21 season pending further discussions with Chinese Taipei.
5. Raith informed the board that China has asked U.S. Figure Skating to release additional athletes who have not competed for the U.S. internationally yet, so these athletes have been released. These release requests have led to a request to put together a working group to review the Athlete Release Policy. The following people were asked to serve on the working group: Martin (coach representative), Auxier (International Committee chair), Horen (ISU representative) and Goldman (Athlete Services Group coordinator). Two athletes appointed by Ladwig and staff will also be part of this group.
6. Horen notified the board that Alexander Lakernik was in attendance at the Grand Prix Selection Meeting and also at Nations Cup. Raith announced that Horen will be the point person for international Theatre On Ice and will work with Lauren Whittaker and John Cole. Raith then provided information on an upcoming ISU Communication expected to be released soon regarding conflict of interest.
7. Raith announced that next year’s Grand Prix Selection Meeting will be on Tuesday, June 30, in St. Petersburg, Russia. The meeting is later because of the 2020 ISU Congress.

VII. Athletes Advisory Committee (AAC) Report

- A. Ladwig reported that he is working on documents for planning and onboarding of AAC members and will hold a committee call in August or September.

- B. Ladwig has also received feedback regarding EMS. Ladwig reported that people are enjoying seeing the results online.
- C. Ladwig notified the board that the vice chairs will lead the Athlete Corner this season, beginning with the August/September 2019 issue of SKATING.
- D. Ladwig provided information on a change to IOC Rule 40 regarding blackout periods being determined by the IOC (International Olympic Committee) instead of national Olympic committees.
- E. Ladwig notified the board he and Mitch Moyer have spoken with the USOPC's Athlete Career and Education (ACE) Department about new tiers to see what resources they can offer our athletes.
- F. Ladwig notified the board that they have not yet balloted the AAC for approval of the athlete members on committees but hope to do that soon.
- G. Ladwig confirmed that the athletes are in support of Emily Hughes serving as a U.S. Figure Skating Foundation Trustee and Isabella Cannuscio serving as a member of the Board of Directors for the U.S. Ice Rink Association.
- H. Ladwig reviewed the Rodchenkov Act and the USOC Reform Bill, and reported that the AAC was balloted, and the results strongly support both.

VIII. Executive Director's Report

- A. Raith announced that the United States Olympic Committee has changed its name to the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC).
- B. The USOPC had a board meeting on June 20 at which they heard a verbal report from the Borders Commission and are expected to release their written report on July 8. The Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies headed by Senators Jerry Moran and Richard Blumenthal is expected to issue its report soon thereafter.
- C. Raith then reviewed the NGB Task Force recommendations that were sent to the USOC and members of Congress to improve the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act and USOPC/NGB Operations.
- D. Raith notified the board that the 2026 Olympic Winter Games were awarded to Italy.
- E. Raith informed the board that the Events Advisory Board plans to present recommendations for the 2021 and 2022 U.S. Figure Skating Championships on the August board call. Ticket sales for the 2020 World Synchronized Skating Championships will open in October. Skate America in Las Vegas is selling well. Single ticket sales for the 2020 U.S. Figure Skating Championships will launch in September. Requests for bids for 2021 Skate America will go out next week. Raith notified the board that after reviewing various venue options and the corresponding financials, the second edition of the Team Challenge Cup, proposed for April 2020, will not be held.
- F. Raith reviewed the process for notifying people of ACH deposits. He has been informed that this is a manual process, but board members, committee chairs and team leaders will be notified of any deposits going forward, and we will look into making this an automated process.
- G. Raith also researched if there is a stated requirement to be truthful when completing a background check. Raith confirmed that there is a checkbox on the form so, if one were to provide false information, it would be an ethics violation.
- H. Raith notified the board that we have hired a new human resources person who will start July 15.

IX. New Business – None

The next business meeting of the board will be via conference call on Monday, Aug. 5, 2019, at 8 p.m. ET.

Call concluded at 10:16 p.m. ET

Submitted,



Gretchen Bonnie, Secretary